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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/779,498	02/09/2001	Hiroshi Yoshida	1095.1157/JDH	5527
21171	7590	10/06/2004	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			BORISSOV, IGOR N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3629	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/779,498

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA, HIROSHI

Examiner

Igor Borissov

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10 have been amended. New claims 11-13 have been added. Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are currently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112 have been withdrawn due to the applicant's amendment.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 101 have been withdrawn due to the applicant's amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robertson et al. (US 6,594,799) in view of Van Huben et al. (5,950,201).

Robertson et al. (hereinafter Robertson) teaches a method and system for facilitating electronic circuit and chip design using remotely located resources, comprising:

Claims 1 and 10. A portal site including an application server having databases containing a user database and a catalog database (Figs. 1 and 2; column 8, lines 36-40); said portal site stores electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information (column 5, lines 1-10); said information (tools and services) are provided by suppliers (experts) connected to the portal site (column 5, lines 11-12); wherein all elements are interconnected via the Internet. Said information (tools and services) are presented in the format identifying

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information (tools and services) available, thereby suggesting registration of said information (column 5, lines 12-17). Said portal site includes means for purchasing said information (column 5, lines 17-19; column 13, lines 46-63).

Robertson does not specifically teach that said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information includes noise countermeasure information.

Van Huben et al. (hereinafter Van Huben) teach an automatic design control method and system for computerized design of integrated circuits, including a library of tools for modeling said circuits, wherein noise analysis tools are employed (column 17, lines 58-64).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Robertson to include that said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information includes noise analyses tools, as disclosed in Van Huben, because it would advantageously allow to design said electronic circuit cheaper and faster.

Furthermore, Robertson teaches:

Claim 2. Said method and system, wherein said means for purchasing comprises means for collecting data on usage of said information (column 9, lines 16-21); said collected information is utilized for charging based on tool usage (column 5, lines 17-19).

Claim 3. Said method and system, comprising at least one of: an information registration requesting unit (column 5, lines 12-17), said means for collecting data on usage of said information (column 9, lines 16-21), and an information usage processing unit comprising circuit information transmitting means for transmitting circuit information to said server (column 5, lines 1-15) and identifier transmitting means for transmitting an identifier of the client apparatus (column 13, lines 24-26, 35-40).

Claim 4. See claim 1.

Claims 5 and 11. Robertson teaches said method and system for facilitating electronic circuit and chip design using remotely located resources, comprising:

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storing electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information (column 5, lines 1-10); said information (tools and services) are provided by suppliers (experts) connected to the portal site (column 5, lines 11-12); wherein all elements are interconnected via the Internet. Said information (tools and services) are presented in the format identifying information (tools and services) available, thereby suggesting registration of said information (column 5, lines 12-17). Said portal site includes means for purchasing said information (column 5, lines 17-19; column 13, lines 46-63).

Robertson does not specifically teach that said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information includes noise countermeasure information.

Van Huben teaches an automatic design control method and system for computerized design of integrated circuits, including a library of tools for modeling said circuits, wherein noise analysis tools are employed (column 17, lines 58-64).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Robertson to include that said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information includes noise analyses tools, as disclosed in Van Huben, because it would advantageously allow to design said electronic circuit cheaper and faster.

Claim 6. See claim 2.

Claim 7. Robertson teaches said method and system for facilitating electronic circuit and chip design using remotely located resources, comprising: means for collecting and transmitting data on usage of said information (column 9, lines 16-21), and an information usage processing unit comprising circuit information transmitting means for transmitting circuit information to said server (column 5, lines 1-15) and identifier transmitting means for transmitting an identifier of the client when said server is accessed (column 13, lines 24-26, 35-40).

Robertson does not specifically teach that said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information includes noise countermeasure information.

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Van Huben teaches an automatic design control method and system for computerized design of integrated circuits, including a library of tools for modeling said circuits, wherein noise analysis tools are employed (column 17, lines 58-64).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Robertson to include that said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information includes noise analyses tools, as disclosed in Van Huben, because it would advantageously allow to design said electronic circuit cheaper and faster.

Claim 8. Robertson teaches said method and system, comprising means for presenting said electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information in the format identifying said information available, thereby suggesting registration of said information (column 5, lines 12-17).

Claim 10. See claim 1.

Claim 12. Said method and system, wherein said means for purchasing comprises means for collecting data on usage of said information (column 9, lines 16-21); said collected information is utilized for charging based on tool usage (column 5, lines 17-19).

Claim 13. See claim 3.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/24/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that Van Huben does not teach noise countermeasures list information generating and determining means, it is noted that Van Huben discloses teach an automatic design control method and system for computerized design of integrated circuits, including a library of tools for modeling said circuits, wherein noise analysis tools are employed (column 17, lines 58-64).

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In response to applicant's argument that Van Huben does not teach circuit information transmitting circuit information to said server, the Examiner points out that Robertson was applied for this feature. Specifically, Robertson teaches a portal site including an application server having databases containing a user database and a catalog database (Figs. 1 and 2; column 8, lines 36-40); said portal site stores electronic components and virtual circuit blocks information (column 5, lines 1-10); said information (tools and services) are provided by suppliers (experts) connected to the portal site (column 5, lines 11-12); wherein all elements are interconnected via the Internet. Said information (tools and services) are presented in the format identifying available information (tools and services) (column 5, lines 12-17).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Igor Borissov at telephone number (703) 305-4649.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 872-9306.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, John Weiss, can be reached at (703) 308-2702.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington D.C. 20231

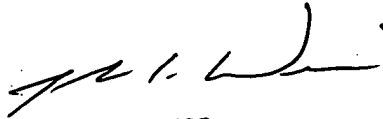
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 [Official communications; including After Final
communications labeled "Box AF"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451
Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 7th floor receptionist.

IB

9/29/2004


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